

Tiger Woods nails 13th major title with plucky PGA win

Provost Marshal snubs Jonas Burgos hearing

By Leticia B. Salaverria

THE HILARIOUS PROVOST MARSHAL yesterday snubbed a panel of judges hearing on a petition that he disavow the results after investigation reveals loss of a license plate under AFP custody that ended up in a car chase by the kidnappers of Jonas Burgos.

PROVOST MARSHAL

Farm sector growth slows to 3.5% in 1st half

House elects first woman deputy Speaker

Vina Morales, Pinoy rock band top Asean music tilt

P12 daily pay hike for Metro minimum wage workers to take effect on Aug. 28

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Tuesday, August 14, 2007

64 Vol. 21 / No. 247

Website: www.inquirer.net

It's official: Mike A's libel suit vs PDI junked

By William N. Lopez

THE MAGS & REGIONAL TRIBES COURT yesterday dismissed the libel case filed against the Philippine Daily Inquirer by Mike A's, a former presidential spokesman, over a 2004 article that alleged the former president's mistress had an affair with a publicist.

PROVOST MARSHAL

Manny breaks silence, denies Ara Mina link

By Angeles-Tenks, Josephine Aldeguer, Maribel B. Cruz in Manila, and Raulo Trinidad in Los Angeles, California

BEING SUPPORTER MANNY PACQUIAO yesterday broke his silence not only by supporting his training in the United States and returned abruptly to the Philippines, on his fans expressed the fact he might not be fit for the Oct. 6 fight.

search with dangerous Mexican fighter Marco Antonio Barrera.

For a while, not even his mother could reach him, setting off a wildfire of speculation for the reasons for his unexpected arrival in Manila the other day.

According to MMA 7 network yesterday, Pacquiao gave an explanation for his return.

young fighter in America magazine does, dominating at almost any age (pacquiao) training techniques. It's possible any of Barrera's fans might come here to camp in disguise and easily say so (and find out the techniques that we are using), Pacquiao said in the interview.

But he also said that he found it very difficult to train in the Philippines because of the extreme heat.

is looking," he said.

Pacquiao tried to explain reasons of a massive lawsuit with some news. He said, saying in Filipino: "I haven't talked with him. It is an understanding that more the media is talking about that she and Pacquiao were dating."

When they study Pacquiao's (1) and (2)...



PACQUIAO's earnings and group worry revenues

Military counterattacks



GOLDEN from the 17th Infantry Battalion leaves Camp Gen. Teodoro Bautista in Jolo, Sulu, for deployment to Camp Baging in Marikina, Sulu, as the military starts a major offensive against the militants.

Stay out, GMA warns politicians

By Michael Lee Ulan and Christine G. Arellano

STUNG BY BATTLEFIELD defeats, the military yesterday launched a full offensive against terrorist hideouts in Sulu, and President Macapagal-Arroyo warned politicians against exploiting the situation for their own ends.

Tensions in Jolo on Sulu's main island of Jolo—where nearly 40 people, including 27 soldiers, have been killed in a recent series of clashes—last night were no less tense as fighting raged there.

Macapagal said that the military was focused on the situation on Jolo but that she had ordered the military to avoid civilian casualties and not to launch a major war with rebel groups, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF).

Tensions in Jolo, on Sulu's main island, are no less tense as fighting raged there.

MACAPAGAL

Marines find time to teach Badjaos

By Jerry B. Espinosa

LEAVE, SULL—FOR MONTHS, THEIR main job has been to train the Badjaos in the use of weapons, but now they are teaching them to read and write.

But Marines are also expected to "go beyond the field" in that war-torn area, like Sulu, could soon down to peace.

Based on Sulu's current situation, the 2nd Marine Brigade has been to the challenge with a special literacy program for Badjaos, or as people, a majority of whom are not even read and write.

Based on the general of this group in the island province of Sulu, where the war-torn Badjaos live, the Marines have been to the challenge with a special literacy program for Badjaos, or as people, a majority of whom are not even read and write.

The military's mission "to read and write" program is a first.

MANILA



TEN-YEAR-OLD Natasia Almadon helps his father take a bag of fish gathering materials along the coast of their village following Pigeo, Kalingan, Calang, Sulu.

Generals hold breath as DND chief flies plane

By Christine G. Arellano

BARELY TWO HOURS INTO HIS NEW job, Defense Secretary Gilberto Teodoro Jr. showed generals in Manila how "fearless" he is.

For a first mission, Teodoro took control of the U.S. 13th plane that landed and military officials on a scheduled one-day visit to conflict-ridden Sulu and Basil.

His reputation was joined the only top general of the 13th plane that landed and military officials on a scheduled one-day visit to conflict-ridden Sulu and Basil.

"We are flying over" General Teodoro said of the 13th plane. He said, "The security flow the plane," he said.

"It's an expert pilot of Teodoro," he said, from the 13th plane, he said, "The security flow the plane," he said.

TEODORO



British teacher appalled by spelling errors

LONDON—A BRITISH university lecturer plans to launch a campaign to help students improve their spelling.

The lecturer, who is a teacher, says that students' lack of spelling skills is a major problem in the classroom. He says that he has noticed a significant increase in spelling errors in his students' work.

Rebecca Laid, a teacher, says that she has noticed a significant increase in spelling errors in her students' work.

Visiting Palace exec told clueless NTC chief to quit

By Tony B. Berganza

MANILA (AP)—A VISITING executive from the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) on Thursday gave an unexpected message that might lead to a change in the NTC's leadership.

Joseph Laguarda, head of the Presidential Communications Office (PCO), told the NTC chief to quit.

He gave a message for Alexander (acting as NTC commissioner) but his message was to be NTC—no one can be NTC.

Alexander wasn't sure why—he was supposed to be NTC's head, but he was told to quit.

There was no surprise either, but it came from the highest official of the NTC—President Laguarda's PCO.

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BERGANT

Second FRONT PAGE

Only 1/3 of Pinoys upbeat about quality of life—SWS

ONLY ONE OF EVERY THREE ADULT Filipino (32 percent) is optimistic that his or her present quality of life will improve in the next 12 months, and only one in four (24 percent), is optimistic the country's economy will get better, according to the August 2007 Social Weather Stations (SWS) survey released yesterday.

SWS, SWS said these findings indicated that hope was rising despite the fact that more Filipinos (37 percent) said their situation actually worsened in the past 12 months. Only 21 percent said their lives took a turn for the better, while the rest said it remained the same.

"The personal and economic optimism ratings were relatively favorable, historically speaking," the SWS said in a press statement.

In the latest survey, personal optimism scored a rating of +22, compared to +12 during the same period last year, and +17 during the last quarter (March 2007).

"The last rating is the difference between the 32 percent who said they were optimistic and the 17 percent who said they lost their quality of life would get worse. The rest said they did not believe any change coming."

As for general economic optimism, the number of optimists were about the same as the previous time. This translated to a net rating of +106, which was more favorable than the -23 rating in March 2006 and 2 in the last quarter (March 2007).

SWS interpreted this as "an expectation

of stability" over the coming year.

In terms of location, there were more economic optimists in Luzon and Visayas than in Metro Manila and the Visayas.

On whether their quality of life actually improved over the past 12 months, the net rating was -18, with only 21 percent saying they gained more than the 39 percent who said they were losers.

Luzon also outperformed the rest in the same period last year, but with even more (39 percent) saying their situation was worsening against 20 percent saying it improved, for a net rating of -30. The net rating for the economic part was minus 23 in the last quarter this year.

"However, a gap of less than 20 points is not too unfavorable. During 2004 to 2006, the gap was never less than 21 points and reached as high as 63," SWS said.

Since the start of 2006, the gap has been between 20 points in the last of eight surveys conducted, SWS said.

In terms of location, the gap between Luzon and Visayas was highest in Metro Manila and among the upper income classes. The 2006 and this year, "remained."

The survey was conducted from June 27 to June 30 using face-to-face interviews with 1,200 adults divided into random samples of 300 each in Metro Manila, the rest of Luzon, the Visayas and Mindanao. It had a margin of error of plus or minus 7 percentage points.

Rene Padua, SWS Director General

TASK FORCES FORMED

GMA acts to bring revenues on track

By Michael Lim Ubo

PRESIDENT MANGAPAGAL-Arroyo said yesterday she was forming a seven-member task force under Finance Secretary Marjorie Torres and an anti-straggling task force under the Presidential Anti-Straggling Group of the National Competitiveness Council to address the tax collection shortfall.

The President said the anti-straggling task force, which will be headed by the President of the Philippine Association of Banks (PAB), will be formed to address the problem of banks not paying their taxes on time. She said the task force will also be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the new economic reforms package.

"We have been trying to improve the efficiency of the revenue-collecting agencies and to get the collection of taxes back on track. We also want to ensure that the government is able to collect its taxes on time and in full," she said.

The President said she was also forming a task force to address the problem of tax evasion. She said the task force will be headed by the President of the Philippine Association of Banks (PAB) and will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the new economic reforms package.

"We want to ensure that the government is able to collect its taxes on time and in full," she said.

tax peace and explore new horizons of Filipino competitiveness, more partnerships and reforms," the President said.

She said the Finance Department was taking the shortfall in revenue collections by the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Bureau of Customs "seriously."

"We have been trying to improve the efficiency of the revenue-collecting agencies and to get the collection of taxes back on track. We also want to ensure that the government is able to collect its taxes on time and in full," she said.

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"We want to ensure that the government is able to collect its taxes on time and in full," she said.

know what has to be done to get back on target. This shows that we have been taking the required actions."

She said that in 2006, her administration's "dedication and discipline" to make economic led to a 10 percent growth in revenues from the previous year.

Revenue due to collection of electricity and tax administration income alone reached P41 billion this year, against P27 percent of the same amount—higher than the conservative target of 12 percent.

"We have demonstrated our ability to meet the challenges of revenue generation. And we are confident that we will continue to improve our performance," she said.

Take responsibility

The President also urged the heads of the various departments to take responsibility for the actions of their agencies. She said she was also forming a task force to address the problem of tax evasion. She said the task force will be headed by the President of the Philippine Association of Banks (PAB) and will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the new economic reforms package.

"We want to ensure that the government is able to collect its taxes on time and in full," she said.

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Educators seek permanent CHED chair to solve tertiary schools' ills

DAGUPAN CITY—A GROUP OF educators has asked President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to appoint a permanent chair to the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). The group, which is headed by the President of the Philippine Association of Banks (PAB), said the current CHED chair, who was appointed for a one-year term, should be replaced by a permanent chair.

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located by the "unprofessional" of appointments, including that of outgoing chair Carlos Panopio.

Panopio, who was appointed for a one-year term, said he was not interested in being reappointed. He said he was not interested in being reappointed.

The group said the current CHED chair, who was appointed for a one-year term, should be replaced by a permanent chair. They said the current CHED chair, who was appointed for a one-year term, should be replaced by a permanent chair.

other surrounding situation by going around the law.

"The law's implementation should be upheld. This is for the CHED chair to have an earned dismissal and not an appointment to the position of an educational institution in the last 15 years," Dagupan said.

The group said the current CHED chair, who was appointed for a one-year term, should be replaced by a permanent chair. They said the current CHED chair, who was appointed for a one-year term, should be replaced by a permanent chair.

'Egay' enters RP, Angat Dam water rises

THE WEATHER BUREAU EXPECTS the water level at Angat Dam to rise further after another storm, "Tapi" entered the Philippine area of responsibility yesterday morning.

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The bureau said the water level at Angat Dam is expected to rise further after another storm, "Tapi" entered the Philippine area of responsibility yesterday morning.

"Looking" through.

"No amount of rain will be expected to be held. It is not direct effect of the water in three days. It is just a matter of time before the water level at Angat Dam rises further after another storm, "Tapi" entered the Philippine area of responsibility yesterday morning.

The bureau said the water level at Angat Dam is expected to rise further after another storm, "Tapi" entered the Philippine area of responsibility yesterday morning.

to the knowledge in the metropolitan area in Manila and Pampanga.

The National Water Resources Board, in its report, said a world-class water management system in Manila and Pampanga is needed to ensure the water level at Angat Dam rises further after another storm, "Tapi" entered the Philippine area of responsibility yesterday morning.

The bureau said the water level at Angat Dam is expected to rise further after another storm, "Tapi" entered the Philippine area of responsibility yesterday morning.



VINA MORALES (center) and rock band Ryan Reyes perform through postcards from the Asian Rock Week, 2008. In the background, other groups stage their respective categories.

Vina Morales, Pinoy rock band top Asean music tilt

By Tara Quiambao

ASIAN ACTRESS-VINA MORALES and rock band Ryan Reyes scored a grand slam on Monday in the first Asian Music, a regional music competition pitting solo artists and bands from the Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia against each other in a contest of talent, creativity and versatility.

Morales topped the solo category for her stirring performance of "Thengs na 'Sa," a song written originally by the renowned poet laureate for a local song which was later aired over Malaysian television. It showcased her singing skills, the performer her original "Sa Pinta Sa Bida."

First runner Ryan won the group category for the band's new single of music, from the upcoming rock number "Love, Lies" in the genre and victory "One Look," both from their current release "I Jump Blues."

Lowest applause

Both in Malaysia, the competition saw Philippine performers receive the lowest applause and biggest outcries from Malaysia and Indonesia.

Reyes grabbed the trophy over

Indonesia's Sing and Indonesia's Taktik. It was Reyes' first international award, one that matters huge amidst South the band because the country's borders.

Morales' impressive featured competitor Jaden Victor of Malaysia and Indira of Indonesia.

"All competitors from the other countries were amazing, I wish I could have been there to see them out. But the Philippine artist most definitely has a chance to become star here, and there shouldn't be any boundaries to stop (her) from doing that," said Reyes' brother Ryan Reyes in a press conference on their arrival yesterday.

For the country

"We were all nervous but we did our best. This is not too far for our country but that night was not enough to eliminate our talent and we gave it our best," Morales said upon her.

"Filipino music is world-class. We topped the award in group and solo and the next step is really to get outside Asia," said drummer Ryan Reyes.

Reyes and Morales had earned the chance to carry the Philippine flag in the regional tilt after edg-

ing on Filipino bands like The Patch and Kala and artists like Sari and Skaret in their Philippine edition, a qualifier for the international championship.

Besides the recognition, Morales and the band won 225,000 (P1.14 million) each and the chance for their music to be distributed, promoted and played around Southeast Asia.

Ready to try

"We're just very happy with how it turned out. We did not expect what happened. That's why we were really crazy, we were really shy when the winners were announced," Reyes said.

"This house, we can't explain (how) we did better than our competitors. It was different, how because I was (representing) the country. We all proved and then, after we won, we said we were going to give it our best," Morales said, adding that she was one of her on stage highs.

"We wanted to play songs that were different, that would help. Fully stand out in the competition. We really wanted to show our music, not variety from one extreme to another," Reyes said.

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Powers for GMA backed

AN ORGANIZATION of power businessmen has backed the efforts of President Macapagal Arroyo emergency powers to arrest corruption due to the economic crisis.

Robert Fernandez, president of Arroyo's International Trade Inc. (ATI), said that the President emergency powers are recommended by International Business Center C. Vig was announced because "there is a possibility a state change may occur if this situation is not given immediate attention."

He said that, however, the emergency powers should only be exercised to allow there is a clear indication of a shortfall in the rice supply.

But he recommended that Congress grant Macapagal Arroyo emergency powers to order the suspension of rice and other strategic commodities of stocks across the nation, especially in areas affected by the dry spell.



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METRO

Editor: Cesar G. Delacruz

Not all pay benefits require retirement/savings/health insurance (Check for 2007) (Check for 2007) (Check for 2007)

₱12 pay hike daily for Metro workers

TUCP to appeal wages board ruling

By Jerome Aring

EFFECTIVE AUG. 28, MINIMUM wage workers in Metro Manila will receive a pay increase of ₱12, bringing the daily basic pay to ₱120 from the previous ₱108.

The Metro Manila Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board approved the increase on Aug. 6, including the integration of the ₱50 rate of living allowance into a worker's basic salary.

The board's decision maintained last Friday by the National Wages and Productivity Commission.

Under Wage Order No. 13, non-agricultural workers in Metro Manila will receive a daily basic pay of

₱102 while those in the agricultural, retail service, and manufacturing sectors will receive ₱105.

The ₱120 minimum wage applies to agricultural workers, private households with a total capacity of 100 or less, retail and service establishments with less than 15 workers and small manufacturing businesses with less than 10 workers.

The new wage order does not cover household helpers, or a person employed in the personal service of members, including family drivers and workers of registered foreigner firms business enterprises or hired after its efficiency.

The private schools in the metropolitan, the workers' union in the business

like imposed this school year will be expected to comply with the prescribed increase in their basic wages.

On the other hand, private educational institutions that did not raise their salaries this year may do so in compliance with the provision of the wage order passed 2006.

In the case of non-retail employees, the wage increase shall be divided by the principal or client. If the principal or client fails to comply with the law, the commission shall take field action.

The Trade Union Congress of the Philippines, which had petitioned for a ₱75 across-the-board, nationwide increase, said it would appeal the board's ruling.



JUST LIKE OLD TIMES

Resident pays the money at the Boreas Farm Park, more than a month after it was reopened to the public. An effort to frequent the park and it was closed to give way to the construction of a building for tourists.

Makati judge dismisses estafa raps filed by ex-ambassador's sis-in-law

By RYTO

FORMER AMBASSADOR TO SWITZERLAND Jose Ponche has been absolved of wrongdoing in connection with the estate changes involving his sister-in-law, who accused him of defrauding her of her co-legal share in the sale of her late husband's Japan.

Judge Justice Villanueva of the Makati Regional Trial Court Branch 66, overruled the resolution of the city prosecutor's office finding probable cause in the 3-year-old case.

"The prosecutor's findings are based on new legal basis," the court said in the June 7 resolution of the Makati City Prosecutor Henry

Villanueva finding sufficient grounds to indict the former ambassador.

In a five-page order dated Aug. 3, Villanueva dismissed the charges of estafa and falsification of public documents against Jose Ponche, setting the complainant, Lina Macab, who was entitled to the amount she demanded of the accused.

"In this instance, it is quite clear that the complainant does not own one-half of the proceeds of the sale of the Japan real estate," the court said.

Villanueva cited a written statement by the family group stating that the surviving spouse is not entitled to any property of the community, and all debts and obligations of the community, including all taxes due, are paid. Therefore, the amount of the

co-legal property to be distributed to the surviving spouse cannot be determined after the divorce paid, as in this case.

"The complainant, as the surviving spouse, cannot claim yet the half of the co-legal property until after the liquidation of the estate," Villanueva said.

Lina alleged that her brother-in-law refused to give her ₱100,000, half of the proceeds from the sale of a 1996 Jaguar owned by her late husband and Jose Ponche's brother-in-law, who died in 2003.

Lina said she was made to understand that half of the proceeds would be used to pay off their obligations, and the other half would be for her share of the co-legal property.

Relocated Payatas residents allowed to return to dump

By Hugan C. Ortiz

THE QUEZON CITY GOVERNMENT yesterday announced that families who were relocated from the old Payatas dump last Friday because of a motor truck slide could now go home.

Mayor Antonio Quinsion Jr. said that the 180 families who were previously relocated to the Justice Cecilia Morsillo Homes High School would be brought back to their community immediately.

"We have fixed the problem in the area... a drainage pipe covered with trash which resulted in the flooding due to heavy rain a garbage spread in trash," Antonio said in a phone interview, adding that the improvements in the weather prompted them to allow the families to return to their homes.

He added that the old Payatas dump has been undergoing deep "improving" or adjustments to prevent a repeat of the truck slide in

2006 that killed more than 200 people.

Quezon City Environmental Protection and Waste Management Department head Frederico Bering said earlier they had submitted a cleanup plan to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. The plan would require the city government to make sure people would no longer live in the area, or ensure that areas and places affected and no guarantee that the slopes of garbage are stable.

The city official said they were still looking for a place where they could build temporary housing to replace the dump.

Joy Papa, president of the Baguio-Balisan Movement, announced several other city groups, however, said that Friday's motor slide was a sign that the 2000 tragedy could happen again. He added that the dump should be closed, fenced and rehabilitated according to the provisions of Republic Act No. 9003, or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act.

Goodbye beer, hello sunset

By Albert W. Lopez

EXTENSIVE EFFORTS KILLING LIQUOR AND food have disappeared from the Payatas on Boreas Boulevard after Manila Mayor Alonzo Quizon issued demolition notices to their owners.

He said the bars and restaurants previously decided not to wait for the demolition operations and dismantled their own structures last week. "People have complained that these

structures were blocking their view of the sunset," Quizon said. "Sunset is a beautiful sight, but they could not see because of the food waste from beach playground establishments."

Mayor Quizon said he had turned the Payatas into a strip of bars and restaurants during his term. Lina admitted that she, Antonio's sister, was implicated, but several months after, complaints started coming in about businesses' operations after the other.

Lina earlier wanted to buy the site of liquor in the strip because of an ordinance prohibiting the drinking of alcoholic beverages in public places.

The coffee and food stalls in Manila Bay met Park Viewing Payatas will also have to go because they "obscured" the view, the mayor said.

But even if the government ordered an obscured view of the famed Manila Bay sunset, the garbage beyond the sunset is not a problem.

Lina blamed the stalls for closing to the view in the area, but said that cleaning operations were being conducted in cooperation with city groups.

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the musical

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Based on the book by David Hampel and David Evans

Directed by: RIMET LLORENZANA

August 31 - September 1, 2007 | 8 PM
September 1 - September 2, 2007 | 1 PM

Carolina R. Bantaojo, Artistic Director, RCBP, Manila City

Website: www.childrenslettersmusical.com.ph

Great Events@Manila Inc. Inquirer

DID YOU KNOW

TODAY, Aug. 14, is the 172nd anniversary of Justice Cerezo, one of the first justices of the first Philippine Republic. The first other justice was Mariano Gomez and also Sergio. The three were executed in 1901 for allegedly kidnapping the Garcia-Hill family (Parang) in Davao. They were later pardoned, and were published at University of Santo Tomas, two elementary schools in Manila and Pampanga, and a secondary school in Iloilo.

(By) Bonaventura Inesce-Soriano

METROBRIEFS

Caught in the act

THE MANILA City government has intensified its campaign against...
Caught in the act...
The Manila City government has intensified its campaign against...

2 Tuguey cops arrested

TWO Tuguey City policemen are being investigated after they tried to extort P50,000 cash from a...
2 Tuguey cops arrested...
Two Tuguey City policemen are being investigated after they tried to extort P50,000 cash from a...

Line at induction rites

SEVERAL of the student leaders, faculty clubs and organizations of the Philippine Women's University...
Line at induction rites...
Several of the student leaders, faculty clubs and organizations of the Philippine Women's University...

Family of 5 dies in QC warehouse fire



Two firemen rescue a person from flames in Noronaga, Quezon City after fire breaks out early yesterday morning. Five people died in the incident, three of them children.

By Joanne L. Andrade
A COUPLE and THEIR THREE children died in a fire which gutted the warehouse they were living in early yesterday morning in Quezon City...
A couple and their three children died in a fire which gutted the warehouse they were living in early yesterday morning in Quezon City...

Man who wanted P40 back takes employee hostage

By Joanne L. Andrade
ARMED WITH A KNIFE, A MANHUNG PERSONAGE an employee of a construction agency in Quezon City...
Man who wanted P40 back takes employee hostage...
Armed with a knife, a manhung personage an employee of a construction agency in Quezon City...

Two three-star generals leading fight vs ragtag band

AT THE RATE GOVERNMENT troops are being killed in anti-cancer and battle in Mindanao and other parts of the country...
Two three-star generals leading fight vs ragtag band...
At the rate government troops are being killed in anti-cancer and battle in Mindanao and other parts of the country...

Advertisement for Squir's Lip featuring a cartoon character and a list of products.

Cops alarmed at use of minors by crime syndicates

Advertisement for a movie or event featuring a large 'G' rating and a 'FREE CHARGE' offer.

Advertisement for a movie 'A Masterpiece' showing at Glorietta 4 & Greenbelt 3 Cinemas.

Advertisement for a movie 'The City of Men' showing at Glorietta 4 & Greenbelt 3 Cinemas.

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East West Classic: Ivanovic whips Petrova

LARGO, CALIFORNIA—ANA Ivanovic of Serbia has 21 victories, including 20 all over powerful backhand, and beat Russia's Svetlana Petrova 7-5, 6-4 to win the East West Classic on Sunday.

Ivanovic completed a big day for Serbia today by winning her second consecutive of the year. Her career-high 10th. Petrova spent most of the day in the dugout, but she was able to win the match.

"I was really good today," said Ivanovic. "I was really good today." Ivanovic and Petrova have been friends for about 14 years. They met in 4-year-old in his parents' court-

ship. Ivanovic is 19 years old. She is a Serbian. She is a Serbian. She is a Serbian.

"I said when I had to watch her, I was really good," she said. "I was really good today." Ivanovic and Petrova have been friends for about 14 years. They met in 4-year-old in his parents' court-

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ANA Ivanovic easily overpowered a point over Maria Petrova.



MONACO Agassi celebrates his win over Roger Federer during the final match of the Monte-Carlo Masters tennis tournament Sunday.

Diokovic stuns Federer, cops Masters plum

CINCINNATI, OHIO—AFTER NO. 1 Diokovic's stunning comeback at the Cincinnati Masters, Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal will try to get their US Open preparation back on track in Cincinnati on Sunday.

Diokovic played six matches in both of the two days in the world's top 10. He was in Cincinnati, playing his first match since he lost to Nadal in the final of the 1996 US Open.

Diokovic and Nadal will try to get their US Open preparation back on track in Cincinnati on Sunday.

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Hidayat rips Spanish foe



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Astros honor Biggio for reaching 3,000 hits

HOUSTON—THE HOUSTON Astros paid tribute to Craig Biggio on Sunday for reaching the 3,000 hit plateau, but the second baseman made sure the celebration didn't end up being the game.

In the 10th inning, Biggio put the Astros on the scoreboard with a solo home run to left field that helped Houston to a 4-3 victory over the Milwaukee Brewers.

He finished a season with 43,378. That was Biggio's only hit of the

game before he was congratulated by his teammates.

Before the game, Biggio was honored with a 4-minute ceremony recognizing the former All-Star for his 3,000 hits and 30 seasons in his first.

In the ceremony, Biggio was honored with a 4-minute ceremony recognizing the former All-Star for his 3,000 hits and 30 seasons in his first.

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Biggio.

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Biggio.

Beckham takes rest as Galaxy lose again

FOOTBALLING GALAXY, MISS.—David Beckham did not play for the Los Angeles Galaxy Sunday night when New England Revolution on Sunday, putting his team's loss in the second half. He was a starter.

The 32-year-old midfielder took his rest in the second half. He was a starter.

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Colombian tops US Women Am

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS—MARIA JOSE LEBLANC of Colombia took advantage of a late morning break by Amanda Blankenship to win the two-day women's play of the year 1 in the U.S. Women's Amateur golf championship on Sunday.

The 19-year-old Lblanc, who will soon be a freshman at UCLA, and Blankenship, a junior at U.S. college champion, won their way into the final round in the 36-hole final round at Goodrich Golf Club.

Blankenship led the group, but Lblanc was in the lead. She was in the lead.

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THE PHILIPPINE BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION is in the process of selecting a new commissioner to replace the current one, who is expected to leave the position in 1999.

Many people say Olympic and Asian Games, which are the most important events in the Philippines, are the best and most important events in the Philippines.

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SPORTS

2000 WORLD CUP CHAMPION

GALING PINOY!



24

OUTLAST

MAINTENANCE-FREE

GALING PINOY!

ABOVE ALL

Minda Olympic Fest comes off the wraps

By John Morera

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—NOT even a driving rain could dampen the enthusiasm of spectators who gathered here through the opening ceremonies of the Mindanao leg of the Philippine Olympic Festival yesterday at the San Francisco Plaza Sports Complex here.

About 1,500 athletes, racing series in 17 sports is a bid to make it to the national training pool, ignored the heavy rainstorm descending along with officials, headed by Gov. Oscar Murmuza of Ilocos Misamis Oriental, who welcomed the 2000 Team at the Mindanao Oriental of the week entry.

Arrives in table tennis, basketball, football, aqua aerobic and chess will kick off the festivities in several events today while the football, swimming and athletics would on Thursday and Friday inside the main complex.

Ilocos Misamis Oriental is hoping to earn the last's share of the medals in only as the men's figure skater delegation with 300 athletes.

Cagayan de Oro and Zamboanga are the other top contenders with 135 and 127 athletes, respectively.

Other local participants will be participating on General Santos City, Zamboanga, Cagayan de Oro, Iloilo, Iwahig, Agaña, Iloilo, Misamis Occidental, Zamboanga City, Agaña de Oro and Cagayan de Oro.

All athletes will be housed in the national headquarters at the end of year, together with the other regional qualifiers and members of the national team.



SHOW UP! GO ON! Murmuza (center) leads the athletes in heavy rain during the opening ceremonies at the San Francisco Plaza Sports Center in Cagayan de Oro City.

PHOTO BY JOHN MORERA

of team.

"Cagayan de Oro has the facilities and strong intention to develop sports," said PDP-Laban National Executive Committee member and Philippine Olympic Committee president Oscar Murmuza.

"This allows athletes to compete in an atmosphere where Olympic medals are waiting for them."

"Starting the games is a water-splashing for us," said Murmuza during the press conference held before the last games at the Philippine Sports Complex.

commented to upgrade the facilities."

A sports hall, Murmuza was joined by Mayor Constantino Amado and Rep. Virginia Briones and Rep. Danilo Lapid in the opening rites.

His presence with Philippine Olympic Committee president Juan Cuyugan, Jr., and sports associations heads Homeo Bagan (bagpang boxer), Maricela Sumbag (judo), and Nick Cabat (judo).

"This would be the way to the 2010 World Youth Olympics," said Cuyugan.



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Farm sector growth slows to 3.5% in 1st half

'07 growth target to be lowered

By Arty R. Reyes

THE GROWTH OF THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR slowed to 3.5 percent in the first six months mainly on account of a dry spell that hit northern Luzon.

The expansion was well below the 5.4 percent growth posted in the same period last year, the Department of Agriculture said in a statement.

Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap had cautioned last week that production targets this year were no longer within reach but that the

harvesting drought could still be mitigated since the central and south regions of the country were enjoying normal rainfall levels.

The government had earlier set a 5 percent growth target for the year.

Yap said in a briefing that with the first-half performance, the go-

vernment would find it difficult to achieve the full-year target.

"We are hard pressed to meet the original production value. There will be a change in the growth target but we don't want to speculate right now," Yap said.

Yap traced the slower growth in the first half to the dry spell and the fact that the private sector did not lend up on their supplies during the first quarter because they said their own sufficient stocks in the market.

For the second quarter, the agriculture

CURRENCIES

AGUSTO

USD-DOLLAR RATE

P 43.65

Ag. 14/08, Aug. 15, 2007

STOCK MARKET

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX

AGUSTO

Shares close 0.4% lower

SHARE PRICES CLOSED 0.4 percent lower Monday as investors took profits, citing a promising start and continuing worries about the US subprime market, and oil's rise.

BIR exceeds July target by P100M

By Michael V. Ramos

FOLLOWING A DRYSPIN, REVENUE IN the first half, the Bureau of Internal Revenue exceeded by a small margin its tax collection goal for July, beating government hopes the deficit reduction target for the year would still be met.

No consistent confidence boost by as late as President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo yesterday, BIR Chief

her office collected P57.9 billion in July, surpassing its P57.8 billion target for the month.

The July performance provided a further boost of the BIR's first-half overall, which was recorded at P304.6 billion. The BIR collected only P294.7 billion from January to June compared with the P307.3 billion target for the period.

However, revenue officials admitted that much had to be done to catch up with the full-year target.

Meeting the full-year tax collection goal of P770.8 billion remains only meeting the target for the remaining months of the year, but exceeding the goal to ensure the deficit is in the first half.

The annual revenue collection in the first half was the reason the government breached its deficit ceiling for the period. The government posted a budget deficit of P40 billion in the first six months, higher

Peso rallies to 45.64 to a dollar

By Davis C. Quinsin

THE PESO FARED UP AGAINST THE dollar yesterday but continued to trail on dollar growth as the weakening US dollar craved continued to spark global markets, currency

traders said.

The local currency opened at the day's low of 45.89 and recovered to a high of 45.62 preceding its Philippine Trading System before closing at 45.64 against the dollar. Although markets remained rocky, the peso managed to rise on a 13-cent gain from Friday's closing rate of 45.7431.

Currency traders said the upward market was windowed confined by the effects of major central banks to meet their respective currencies' fall but Friday when reports about economic

growth exposed to the US subprime mortgage market caused a global sell-off.

Last week, Bangkok Stock up Philippine Commerce Secretary Arroyo Jr. reiterated that the US subprime crisis would not impact Philippine banks. In-

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ALL NEW VIOS

My Design. My Pride.

Shell to start selling CNG

By Adolph L. Hise

WITH THINGS UP IN THE AIR, the Shell group of companies in the Philippines will finally start selling compressed natural gas (CNG) by the end of next month.

Energy Secretary Angela Byrne said it is an irony that Shell's money didn't edge Chris Brownell last month's "five nominations" to start filling CNE, as he was playing the Otago-Mania card over months with the operation of refilling stations.

"We spoke earlier phone and that's what he told me. We also discussed the details of the mission to be set up in Hanoi, Laos," he said.

The main Shell LNG station is in Tolucaque, Basse-Normandie, while a smaller station will be built on the small Iles d'Yeu peninsula in Brittany.

Compressed gas will cater to provincial buses

Reviewed by Charles

The operation of 100-ft CNG will

ing stations is part of the green-
house's National Gas Vehicle Program
for Public Transport (NGVPTL),
seven-year pilot program that will
pay the price of CNG at \$14.32 a liter
less than half the price of diesel, to
participating bus operators.

The Department of Energy expects (200-245-442) loans to be delivered to the borrower, 100% of which have already

These accredited bus operators include H&M Transport Ltd. with 8 units, H. Transport with 40 units

HOV: Transper and Personal Line Inc. with 25 seats each, Greenleaf Express Inc. and CHE Whalers Corp. with 10 seats each, and HBR. Transport System Inc. with five seats.

The Mississippi Deep Water Gateway project is efficient

The increased use of alternative

transport fuels such as CNG, will help ease the country's dependence on imported fuels, as the transport sector currently accounts for around 26 percent of the country's total oil consumption.



ENTERTAINMENT

Larry Green & Yvonne

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AI-AI DE LAS ALAS



ALICIA MAYER

Ai-Ai torn between Kapuso and Kapamilya networks

LAST FRIDAY MORNING, I GOT THIS text from Ai-Ai dela Alas: "Mama, please stop saying I'm not happy!" I'm not sure if she's saying that to me or if she's saying that to the world. I'm not sure if she's saying that to me or if she's saying that to the world. I'm not sure if she's saying that to me or if she's saying that to the world.

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DOLLY WOOD

Dolly Anne Carvajal



Upset about what?

After my talk about Alicia Mayer's *Crucible* on today's pressing *Kapuso* shows, I'm sure you're all wondering: What's the deal? Is she really upset about what? Or is she just saying that to the world?

Martin's Sergio

The role of Sergio, Martin's love interest, is a role made for Dingdong Dantes, with his long, dark hair and intense gaze. But what if the role goes to someone else? What if the role goes to someone else?

His on-screen partner, Dolly Anne Carvajal, is a role made for Dolly Anne Carvajal, with her long, dark hair and intense gaze. But what if the role goes to someone else? What if the role goes to someone else?

It's not just about the role, it's about the person. It's about the person who is playing the role. It's about the person who is playing the role. It's about the person who is playing the role.

At the end of the day, it's all about the person. It's all about the person who is playing the role. It's all about the person who is playing the role. It's all about the person who is playing the role.

CHEER FACTOR

Rapping klabboy vendor stuns France

PARIS — FOR MOST OF US, KLABBOY VENDOR (KLABBOY VENDOR) IS AN UNBROKEN rap on the streets of the French capital. Now, the 27-year-old has a contract with record label (M) and is expected to release his first album, "Klabboy". He said he was in Paris because he wanted to be a rapper. He said he was in Paris because he wanted to be a rapper.

MONSTER RAGE RX 93.1

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EVAN ALMIGHTY

Steve CARELL Morgan FREEMAN

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AMANDA BYNES
is Penny Pingleton

HAIRSPRAY

Give Your Looks an Upgrade

Facial Care Centre FOR MEN offers
5 Ways to rid your skin of its flaws

1 Acne scars and blemishes

Sure, checking the skin in the mirror is a good idea, but some scars and blemishes are not equal. Pimples, freckles, and acne scars are all different. Pimples and acne scars are different. Pimples and acne scars are different. Pimples and acne scars are different.



2 Pimple breakouts and Blackheads

You've already been through it in high school (and you're still going through it). Acne on your face is a common problem. Acne on your face is a common problem. Acne on your face is a common problem. Acne on your face is a common problem.

3 Fine lines and Wrinkles

They pick-up lines and the face is the first to show signs of aging. They pick-up lines and the face is the first to show signs of aging. They pick-up lines and the face is the first to show signs of aging. They pick-up lines and the face is the first to show signs of aging.

4 Loose, sagging skin

Everything is better than ever. Everything is better than ever. Everything is better than ever. Everything is better than ever. Everything is better than ever. Everything is better than ever.

treatment with no needles, stitches, scars or lesions involved. After a quick 15-minute session, your skin is fresh, firm and blemish-free.

5 Skin Fatigue

Overexposed to the sun, stress, and lack of sleep, your skin is tired. Overexposed to the sun, stress, and lack of sleep, your skin is tired. Overexposed to the sun, stress, and lack of sleep, your skin is tired. Overexposed to the sun, stress, and lack of sleep, your skin is tired.



All treatments are available at the Facial Care Centre. Call 873-7888 for a free consultation.

